

The Sixty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists

This year, our association travels to San Antonio, Texas for its sixty-ninth annual meeting. It has proven to be an even bigger attraction than last year, as we once again have a record number of papers scheduled for presentation (approximately 665) in 46 sessions. This is a 15% increase over last year. Fifteen of those sessions are symposia presenting research from a wide variety of areas in physical anthropology, including the genetics of aging; poverty in the nineteenth century; current and future applications of bone histology to biological anthropology; a celebration of the contributions of Charles Oxnard; biocultural changes in late glacial Europe; biocultural perspectives on pregnancy and parturition in the past; reconstructing primate phylogeny and human evolution in the age of genomic exploration; processes in the emergence of "modern" humans; the New York African Burial Ground Project; patterns of physiological stress in primates: the dental evidence; current issues in primate biogeography; the emergence of modern human walking; understanding taphonomic processes; Old World and New World perspectives on bioarchaeology; and life history of human and non-human primate males in comparative perspective. In addition to the AAPA activities, the meeting site is hosting events of a number of other groups during the week, including the Human Biology Association, Paleopathology Association, American Dermatoglyphics Association, Dental Anthropology Association, Primate Biology and Behavior Interest Group, and American Association of Anthropological Genetics.

As always, we are thrilled to see the number of colleagues from overseas scheduled to participate. Moreover, the revised guidelines for the student paper prize compe-

tition have definitely sparked increased participation in that event with a 100% increase in the number of entries (over 100 this year as opposed to 50 last year). Given the success of last year's Student Awards Reception, I am pleased to note that we will be continuing this new tradition, with the winners of this year's student paper prizes being announced on Saturday night at the Adam's Mark Hotel's "River Plaza" along the Riverwalk. Please set aside time for it, as it should be a chance not only to recognize the outstanding efforts of our students, but also to close-out the meetings on a festive note!

In the pages of this Annual Meeting Issue of the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, we present a detailed program grid for the week, a map showing the meeting rooms of the Adam's Mark Hotel, a day-by-day summary of events for AAPA (and other organizations, editorial boards, workshops, & business meetings), an author index (by *session number*), and the abstracts of AAPA poster and podium presentations.

Formal activities for some of the groups meeting prior to the AAPA commence on Monday evening, April 10th. AAPA activities begin with the Career Development Committee's Workshop on "Getting that First Professional Position," followed by the annual opening reception on Wednesday evening, April 12th. AAPA poster and podium presentations begin Thursday, April 12th, and continue through Saturday afternoon, April 15th. As usual, two annual events will provide stimulating contributions to the meetings. The plenary lecture will be given on Thursday evening by John VandeBerg from the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research. The focus of his talk will be on one of the most rapidly-growing areas of biomedical research, the study of genetics and disease. The annual luncheon address will be

delivered on Friday afternoon by Clifford Jolly, Professor of Anthropology at New York University. It will be an exciting chance to hear about changing perspectives in the study of humankind. As always, we encourage the membership to attend the annual business meeting, to be held on Friday evening, April 14th.

The AAPA Scientific Program, Local Arrangements, and Executive Committees look forward to your participation in the annual meeting in San Antonio, surely to be one of our best gatherings ever.

Mark F. Teafor
AAPA Vice President and Program Chair